

Letter from Charles J. Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, January 20, 1917

AMERICAN SECURITY AND TRUST COMPANY 7 INCORPORATED UNDER ACT OF CONGRESS OCTOBER, 1890 **CAPITAL AND SURPLUS OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT CHARLES J. BELL** \$5,000,000 PRESIDENT CORCORAN THOM, VICE PRESIDENT HENRY F. BLOUNT, VICE PRESIDENT H. S. REESIDE, VICE PRESIDENT JAMES F. HOOD, SECRETARY CHARLES E. HOWE, TREASURER ALFRED B. LEET, TRUST OFFICER WILLIAM W. KECK, ASST. TREASURER DAVID N. HOUSTON, ASST. TRUST OFFICER JOHN G. HOLDEN, AUDITOR ALFRED C. FLATHER, ASST. TRUST OFFICER **WASHINGTON, D. C.** To be began "My dear Mr Bell" sig — "C.G. Bell" — January 20, 1917 Dr. Alexander Graham Bell My dear Alec:

I enclose herewith a letter just received from Mr. McCurdy in which he now makes, for the Curtiss Aeroplane Company, a definite offer of \$4000. cash, \$25,000. in preferred stock and \$25,000. in common stock of the Curtiss Aeroplane and Motor Corporation, for the A.E.A. patents, and states in his letter that he and Mr. Curtiss believe the offer should be accepted. As you are the more largely interested in the matter than any one else, from a financial point of view, will you not advise me what your wishes are.

As I have informed you before, the Curtiss Company is by no means in strong financial condition, but it is quite possible that if the war keeps up a complete change in their affairs might take place and their stock become valuable, so that there is a speculative possibility. I have written Douglass telling him that I would reply to his letter on Monday, so if you will telephone me sometime to-morrow afternoon when you can see me, we might talk the matter over. Yours faithfully

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Charles